

December 1st, 2004

MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

Mike Sharp opened the meeting with introductions. The group then covered the agenda items before MCA had a chance to discuss some of their new business.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Temporary Sign Supports.** MDT informed MCA that this was brought up at the last DCE meeting. MDT is currently still looking into whether the 90-day timeframe for removal of signs is reasonable. MDT is looking at different criteria for deciding when temporary sign supports need to be removed (behind guardrail, outside clear zone etc.) MCA asked what is to be done if Traffic Control is Lump Sum and the project is extended over two seasons. MDT will review this concern before the next meeting.
2. **Traffic Control Units.** MDT stated they have reviewed the Traffic Control Special Provision and new version was drafted with a change to 115%. This will be changed on all contracts. Once Traffic Control reaches 115%, the price then goes to \$0.80 per unit for the quantities that are over 115%.
3. **Chip Seal Gradation.** MCA felt their comments were included when the first version was drafted but after changes were made, they never saw the last updates before the spec was implemented. MDT stated that it is a good spec and thanked all those involved with new language.
4. **Volumetric Targets.** The Grade S team is currently looking at MCA's concerns. The new Grade S spec is currently in the draft stage and MDT looks to have all changes incorporated by February.
5. **Magnesium Chloride.** MDT has drafted a new Special Provision for Mag-Chloride with new Construction Requirements that will give some leeway depending on the weather conditions, which should alleviate MCA's concerns.
6. **Select Backfill Gradation.** MCA did some research. MCA felt that it is cheaper to absorb the disincentive on the gradation rather than spending the extra money to get specified material that the department wants. MDT will look into this and asked for additional input and suggestions from MCA.
7. **100% incidental item.** MDT agreed with MCA's concerns but pointed out that it works both ways. Some items may overrun and the incidentals may not. Loose ends within the incidental item specs will likely lead to disputes between the contractors and the department. MCA suggested that MDT specify which items the incidental costs should be included in. MDT will look into this.
8. **Major Item.** MDT is still waiting for MCA comments. MCA suggested putting a 5% of total bid threshold on a Major Item and a 50% increase over bid amount threshold on a minor item. Once MCA gets their comments to MDT, MDT will consider them.
9. **Bid Express.** The members of MCA that participated in the test letting overall were happy with this system. MDT informed MCA that there will be two Bid Bond companies, Surety 2000 and Insure, that can be used along with Bid Express.
10. **Bid Disks.** MDT informed MCA that the Bid Disks would still be available after January with a fee.
11. **Annual Grade S Review.** MDT stated that they are currently in phase 1 of the review. They have collected comments and put together a formal draft for internal review. The second phase will include a formal review. MDT expects the limitations on grades and tonnages to be guidelines.
12. **Erosion Control.** MDT informed MCA that the BMP rate schedule is in the final stages and will be out in February. MCA inquired about maintenance. MDT informed them that it is included in the cost presently. MDT anticipates annual reviews with updates. Paul Jagoda will meet with Pat Bibeau who will represent MCA.

13. **Qualified Products List.** MDT informed the committee that this has been actively worked on in the last month. The QPL should be in action by March. Currently, the Department has a list of items including fencing items, SS-1, epoxy pavement markings, etc. MDT will do a test run to see how it will work and they feel the list should expand quickly after this.
14. **Addenda Process.** It is still 48 hours for the scheduled items (quantities), but clarifications can be made up to 5:00 p.m. the day before the letting and the contractors should be checking this up to that time.
15. **¾" Crushed Top Surfacing.** MDT is still waiting for the new AASHTO design guideline before making a decision.

New Business f/ MCA

1. **PLS or PE on Surveys.** MCA discussed the idea of having a PLS or PE on surveys. MDT felt that it wants accountability especially someone in responsible charge of the survey. This is in the discussion stage and no formal draft has been put out for review and comment.
2. **Work incidental to Chip Seal.** MCA informed MDT about a problem that they have seen on chip seal job where there is a lot of additional clean up after the chip seal is completed. The two major items are guardrails and cattle guards. MCA felt that field maintenance crews are not consistently cleaning up sand under the guardrail before the chip seal is applied. MCA stated they are being told to clean out existing debris and dirt in the cattle guards and not just the chips. The end result is the contractor has been required to perform additional clean up that is not related to the chip seal project. . MCA suggested going through the project at the precon to view the existing conditions before the chip seal begins. MDT will look into these concerns.

The next meeting will be **January 26th, 2004**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.

cc:	Gene Kaufman, FHWA	Mike Sharp
	Joel Marshik	Suzy Althof
	James Walther	Paul Ferry
	Mark Wissinger	Scott Barnes
	Lisa Durbin	Matt Strizich
	Ryan Antonovich	Kent Barnes
	MCA- Attn, Dee Dee Johnson	District Construction Engineers
	Paul Jogoda	Dan Smith